

## General Assembly

## Substitute Bill No. 7429

January Session, 2007

\*\_\_\_\_\_HB07429JUD\_\_\_041307\_\_\_\_\*

## AN ACT CONCERNING JUDICIAL BRANCH OPENNESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 51-44a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- (a) There is established a Judicial Selection Commission comprised of twelve members. Six of the members shall be attorneys-at-law and six of the members shall not be attorneys-at-law. Not more than six of the members shall belong to the same political party. None of the members shall be an elected or appointed official of the state or hold state-wide office in a political party.
- 9 (b) The members of the commission shall be appointed as follows: 10 The Governor shall appoint six members, one from each congressional 11 district and one at-large member, three of whom shall be attorneys-at-12 law and three of whom shall not be attorneys-at-law; the president pro 13 tempore of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall be an 14 attorney-at-law; the speaker of the House of Representatives shall 15 appoint one member who shall not be an attorney-at-law; the majority 16 leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall not be an 17 attorney-at-law; the majority leader of the House of Representatives 18 shall appoint one member who shall be an attorney-at-law; the 19 minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall not 20 be an attorney-at-law; and the minority leader of the House of

- 21 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall be an attorney-at-
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- 23 (c) The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from 24 among the members appointed by the Governor.
- 25 (d) (1) The members of the commission shall serve for terms of three years.
- 27 (2) Members appointed on or after June 26, 2003, shall serve for 28 terms of three years and, notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-1, 29 until their successors are appointed and have qualified or ninety days 30 after the completion of their terms, whichever is earlier.
  - (3) Members serving on June 26, 2003, shall continue to serve as members until the end of their terms and, notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-1, until their successors are appointed and have qualified or ninety days after the completion of their terms, whichever is earlier, except that members serving on June 26, 2003, who have completed their terms and are serving until their successors are appointed and have qualified shall, notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-1, continue to serve until their successors are appointed and have qualified, but not later than January 1, 2004.
    - (4) Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the appointing authority. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
    - (5) No member of the commission may serve consecutive terms, except that if, on or after June 26, 2003, a person is appointed a member of the commission to fill a vacancy and complete an unexpired term, such person may serve an additional term. If a commission member is an attorney, no member of the commission member's firm may serve a term consecutive to such commission member.

(e) The commission shall evaluate incumbent judges who seek reappointment to the same court, and incumbent state referees who seek reappointment, and shall forward to the Governor for consideration the names of incumbent judges and state referees who are recommended for reappointment as provided in this subsection. The commission shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning criteria by which to evaluate incumbent judges who seek reappointment to the same court [; provided pending adoption of such regulations, the commission shall use criteria established prior to June 22, 1989, for the evaluation of such judges] and incumbent state referees who seek reappointment. In evaluating the reappointment of an incumbent judge or state referee, the commission shall consider the legal ability, competence, integrity, character and temperament of such judge or state referee and any other relevant information concerning such judge or state referee. There shall be a presumption that each incumbent judge who seeks reappointment to the same court qualifies for retention in judicial office. The burden of rebutting such presumption shall be on the commission. Such presumption shall not apply to incumbent state referees who seek reappointment. The commission shall investigate and interview each incumbent judge and state referee who seeks reappointment and, prior to the expiration of a term of office of such judge or state referee, shall recommend such incumbent judge or state referee for nomination for reappointment by the Governor [to the same court] unless, as provided in this subsection, recommendation of such judge or state referee is denied. If a preliminary examination indicates further inquiry is necessary before a recommendation reappointment may be made, the commission shall hold a hearing concerning the reappointment of such judge or state referee. The commission shall send notice to the judge or state referee by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, not less than one hundred eighty days prior to the convening of such legislative session which is to consider the reappointment of the incumbent judge or state referee, (A) that a hearing by the commission on such reappointment shall be held and of the time, date and place of such hearing, which shall be not

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less than thirty days [nor] or more than forty-five days after the date of such notice, and (B) of specific claims made against the judge or state referee. The commission shall make a record of all hearings conducted pursuant to this subsection. The hearing may be open to the public at the request of the judge or state referee. For the purposes of conducting a hearing under this subsection, not less than ten members of the commission shall be present and voting. A judge or state referee appearing before such a hearing shall be entitled to counsel, to present evidence and to cross-examine witnesses who appear voluntarily. No judge or state referee shall be required to sign or execute any release in order to proceed with the hearing. The commission shall, not later than twenty days after the close of such hearing, render its decision whether it shall recommend such incumbent judge or state referee for nomination for reappointment by the Governor. Any affirmative vote of a majority plus one of the members present and voting shall be required to deny recommendation to the Governor for nomination of an incumbent judge to the same court or an incumbent state referee. A judge or state referee who has not received approval by the commission may, within ten days after receipt of the notice of decision, which shall include a record of the numerical vote, request a rehearing on the grounds that the conclusions of the commission are contrary to the evidence presented at the hearing or the commission failed to comply with the procedural or substantive requirements of this section. The decision of the commission shall be final. There shall be no right of appeal by any judge or state referee appearing before the commission, at law or in equity, or any resort to any court following the decision of the commission.

(f) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, the commission shall seek qualified candidates for consideration by the Governor for nomination as judges for the Superior Court, Appellate Court and Supreme Court. The commission shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning criteria by which to evaluate the qualifications of candidates, including incumbent judges who seek appointment to a different court. The

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- commission shall investigate and interview the candidates, including incumbent judges seeking appointment to a different court. A list of such qualified candidates shall be compiled by the commission. Such list shall be confidential and not open to the public or subject to disclosure, except that the names of qualified candidates for the position of associate judge or Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be available to the public.
- (g) The commission shall establish and maintain an Internet web site. The commission shall post on the web site the address and telephone number of the commission's office, the electronic mail address for the commission and information concerning the duties and procedures of the commission. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, the procedure for filing an application to become a judge of the Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme Court and a copy of the application form.
  - (h) The commission shall give notice of the time and place of its meetings, and make the agendas for such meetings available to the public, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14, except that an agenda made available to the public shall not contain any personally identifiable information that might identify candidates, incumbent judges seeking appointment to the same court or appointment to a different court or incumbent state referees seeking reappointment. The commission shall post such notices and agendas on its Internet web site and provide such notices and agendas to the cochairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary.
  - [(g)] (i) In connection with any inquiry concerning the reappointment of an incumbent judge or state referee, the commission shall have the power to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and the production of any books or papers which in the judgment of the commission are relevant to the inquiry. The commission may, upon request of the judge or state referee whose reappointment is at issue, issue a subpoena on behalf of such judge or

state referee. If any person disobeys such process or, having appeared in obedience thereto, refuses to answer any pertinent question put to [him] such person by the commission [,] or to produce any books and papers pursuant thereto, the commission, on its own behalf or on behalf of the judge or state referee, may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford setting forth such disobedience to process or refusal to answer, and [said] the court may cite such person to appear before [said] the court to answer such question or to produce such books and papers and, upon [his] such person's refusal so to do, shall commit [him] such person to a community correctional center, there to remain until [he] such person so testifies.

[(h)] (j) (1) Judges of all courts, except those courts to which judges are elected, shall be nominated by the Governor exclusively from the list of candidates or incumbent judges submitted by the Judicial Selection Commission. Any candidate or incumbent judge who is nominated from such list by the Governor to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and who is appointed Chief Justice by the General Assembly, shall serve a term of eight years from the date of appointment. The Governor shall nominate a candidate for a vacancy in a judicial position within forty-five days of the date the Governor receives the recommendations of the commission. When considering the nomination of an incumbent judge for reappointment to the same court, the Governor may nominate the incumbent judge if the commission did not deny recommendation for reappointment. Whenever an incumbent judge is denied recommendation for reappointment to the same court by the commission or is recommended by the commission but not nominated by the Governor for reappointment to the same court, or whenever a vacancy in a judicial position occurs or is anticipated, the Governor shall choose a nominee from the list of candidates compiled pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection and subsection (f) of this section, the Governor may nominate an associate judge of the Supreme Court to be Chief Justice

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of the Supreme Court without such judge being investigated and interviewed by the commission and being on the list of qualified candidates compiled and submitted to the Governor by the commission. An associate judge of the Supreme Court who has been nominated by the Governor to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in accordance with this subdivision, and who is appointed Chief Justice by the General Assembly, shall serve an initial term as Chief Justice equal to the remainder of such judge's term as an associate judge of the Supreme Court.

- (3) When considering the nomination of an incumbent state referee for reappointment, the Governor may nominate the incumbent state referee if the commission did not deny recommendation for reappointment.
- [(i)] (k) A majority of the membership of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of the commission present and voting shall be required for any action by the commission, except (1) an affirmative vote of at least a majority plus one of the members present and voting shall be required for a new nominee to be recommended to the Governor for nomination as a judge or for an incumbent judge to be recommended to the Governor for nomination as a judge to a different court, and (2) an affirmative vote of a majority plus one of the members present and voting shall be required to deny recommendation to the Governor for nomination of an incumbent judge to the same court or for nomination of a state referee for reappointment. No vote of the commission on a new nominee shall be by secret ballot. The vote of the commission on an incumbent judge or state referee may be by secret ballot.
- [(j)] (l) Except as provided in subsections (e), [and (m)] (f), (h) and (o) of this section, the investigations, deliberations, files and records of the commission shall be confidential and shall not be open to the public or subject to disclosure, except that the criteria by which candidates, [or] incumbent judges who seek reappointment to the same court or appointment to a different court or incumbent state

- referees who seek reappointment are evaluated and the procedural rules adopted by the commission shall be public.
- [(k)] (m) The commission may employ such staff as is necessary for the performance of its functions and duties.
- [(l)] (n) No member of the commission who is an attorney-at-law shall be considered for recommendation to the Governor for nomination as a judge during [his] such member's tenure on the commission or for a period of two years following the termination of [his] such member's tenure on the commission.
  - [(m)] (o) In January of each year, the chairperson of the commission shall report to the joint standing committee [on] of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary the following information: (1) The number of candidates interviewed for appointment as new nominees, the number of incumbent judges interviewed for reappointment to the same court, [and] the number of incumbent judges interviewed for appointment to a different court and the number of incumbent state referees interviewed for reappointment, (2) the number of candidates who were recommended and denied recommendation to the Governor as new nominees, the number of incumbent judges recommended and denied recommendation for appointment to the same court, [and] the number of incumbent judges recommended and denied recommendation for appointment to a different court and the number of incumbent state referees recommended and denied recommendation for reappointment, and (3) the statistics regarding the race, gender, national origin, religion and years of experience as members of the bar of all such candidates.
    - [(n)] (p) The commission [shall have the power to] may enter into such contractual agreements as may be necessary for the discharge of its duties concerning the investigation of candidates seeking appointment to a judicial position, [and] incumbent judges seeking reappointment to the same court or appointment to a different court and incumbent state referees seeking reappointment, within the limits

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- of appropriated funds and in accordance with established procedures.
- Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 51-50*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- 257 (a) Each senior judge who ceases to hold office as a senior judge 258 because of having reached the age of seventy years and who is an 259 elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee for the 260 remainder of [his] such senior judge's term of office as a judge and 261 shall be eligible for appointment as a state referee during the 262 remainder of [his] such senior judge's life in the manner prescribed by 263 law for the appointment of a judge of the court of which [he] such 264 senior judge is a member, subject to the provisions of section 51-44a, as amended by this act. 265
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 52-434 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
  - (a) (1) Each judge of the Supreme Court, each judge of the Appellate Court, each judge of the Superior Court and each judge of the Court of Common Pleas who ceases or has ceased to hold office because of retirement, other than under the provisions of section 51-49, and who is an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee for the remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and shall be eligible for appointment as a state referee during the remainder of such judge's life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment of a judge of the court of which such judge is a member, subject to the provisions of section 51-44a, as amended by this act. The Superior Court may refer any civil [,] nonjury case or with the written consent of the parties or their attorneys, any civil jury case pending before the court in which the issues have been closed to a judge trial referee who shall have and exercise the powers of the Superior Court in respect to trial, judgment and appeal in the case, and any proceeding resulting from a demand for a trial de novo pursuant to subsection (e) of section 52-549z may be

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referred without the consent of the parties to a judge trial referee who has been specifically designated to hear such proceedings pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The Superior Court may, with the consent of the parties or their attorneys, refer any criminal case to a judge trial referee who shall have and exercise the powers of the Superior Court in respect to trial, judgment, sentencing and appeal in the case, except that the Superior Court may, without the consent of the parties or their attorneys, (A) refer any criminal case, other than a criminal jury trial, to a judge trial referee assigned to a geographical area criminal court session, and (B) refer any criminal case, other than a class A or B felony or capital felony, to a judge trial referee to preside over the jury selection process and any voir dire examination conducted in such case, unless good cause is shown not to refer.

(2) Each judge of the Circuit Court who has ceased to hold office because of retirement, other than under the provisions of section 51-49, and who is an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee for the remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and shall be eligible for appointment as a state referee during the remainder of such judge's life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment of a judge of the court of which such judge is a member, subject to the provisions of section 51-44a, as amended by this act, to whom the Superior Court may, with the written consent of the parties or their attorneys, refer any case pending in court in which the issues have been closed and which the judges of the Superior Court may establish by rule to be the kind of case which may be heard by such referees who have been appointed judge trial referees pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The judge trial referee shall hear any such case so referred and report the facts to the court by which the case was referred.

(3) Each judge of the Juvenile Court who ceases or has ceased to hold office because of retirement, other than under the provisions of section 51-49, and who is an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee for the remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and shall be eligible for appointment as a state referee during the

remainder of such judge's life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment of a judge of the court of which such judge is a member, subject to the provisions of section 51-44a, as amended by this act, to whom a judge before whom any juvenile matter is pending may, with the written consent of the child concerned, either of such child's parents, or such child's guardian or attorney, refer any juvenile matter pending, provided such referee has been appointed a judge trial referee specifically designated to hear juvenile cases pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The judge trial referee shall hear any matter so referred and report the facts to the court for the district from which the matter was referred.

- (4) In addition to the judge trial referees who are appointed pursuant to subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection, the Chief Justice may appoint, from qualified members of the bar of the state, who are electors and residents of this state, as many state referees as the Chief Justice may from time to time deem advisable or necessary. No appointment of a member of the bar may be for a term of more than three years. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, state referees appointed by the Chief Justice from members of the bar shall receive such reasonable compensation and expenses as may be determined by the Chief Justice. The Superior Court may appoint a state referee pursuant to this subdivision to take such evidence as it directs in any civil [,] nonjury case including, but not limited to, appeals under section 8-8. Any such state referee shall report on such evidence to the court with any findings of fact. The report shall constitute a part of the proceeding upon which the determination of the court shall be made.
- Sec. 4. Section 51-51k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- (a) There is hereby established a Judicial Review Council to be composed of the following members: (1) Three judges of the Superior Court, who are not also judges of the Supreme Court, who shall be appointed by the Governor, from a list of six judges selected by the

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352 members of the Superior Court, with the approval of the General 353 Assembly, (2) three attorneys-at-law admitted to practice in this state, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the 355 General Assembly, (3) six persons who are not judges or attorneys-at-356 law, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the 357 General Assembly, and (4) thirteen alternate members who shall be 358 appointed by the Governor with the approval of the General 359 Assembly, as follows: (A) Two judges of the Superior Court who are 360 not also judges of the Supreme Court, from a list of four judges selected by the members of the Superior Court, (B) two attorneys-at-362 law admitted to practice in this state, (C) three persons who are not judges or attorneys-at-law, (D) three compensation commissioners and 363 364 (E) three family support magistrates.

(b) An alternate member who is a judge, attorney-at-law or person who is not a judge or attorney-at-law shall serve at probable cause hearings and public hearings in lieu of a member who is a judge, attorney-at-law or person who is not a judge or attorney-at-law, respectively, when such member is absent or disqualified, as designated by the executive director of the council. An alternate member who is a compensation commissioner shall serve as a member of the council in lieu of one of the members who is a judge of the Superior Court, as designated by the executive director, when the subject of a complaint or investigation is a compensation commissioner. An alternate member who is a family support magistrate shall serve as a member of the council in lieu of one of the members who is a judge of the Superior Court, as designated by the executive director, when the subject of a complaint or investigation is a family support magistrate. An alternate member shall have the same power as the member he or she is temporarily replacing during the absence or disqualification of the member.

(c) On and after December 1, 1992, members shall be appointed in accordance with subsection (a) as follows: One judge shall be appointed for a term of two years, one judge shall be appointed for a term of three years and one judge shall be appointed for a term of four

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years; one attorney shall be appointed for a term of two years, one attorney shall be appointed for a term of three years and one attorney shall be appointed for a term of four years; two lay members shall be appointed for terms of two years, two lay members shall be appointed for terms of three years, and two lay members shall be appointed for terms of four years. Thereafter members shall serve for terms of four years. Members may continue in office until a successor is appointed and qualified. No member appointed on or after December 1, 1992, may serve consecutive terms, and if the member is an attorney, no member of his or her firm may serve a term consecutive to such member, provided no member may serve for more than two terms. Vacancies on the council shall be filled for the unexpired portion of any term in the same manner as the original appointment. Any member who is a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner and retires from full-time active service as a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner shall automatically cease to be a member of the council, and a vacancy shall be deemed to occur. Alternate members shall be appointed for terms of three years and shall not serve consecutive terms as alternate members.

- (d) No member of the council, except a judge, family support magistrate or compensation commissioner, may hold any elected or appointed position with compensation within the state or United States, or be a selectman or chief executive officer of any municipality, or a full or part-time employee of the Judicial Department or Workers' Compensation Commission, or a member of a national or state central committee, or a chairperson of any political party.
- (e) (1) The Judicial Review Council shall employ an executive director, a full-time attorney and such other staff as is necessary for the performance of its functions and duties.
- (2) The executive director may investigate any complaint filed pursuant to section 51-51*l*, as amended by this act, and present evidence obtained pursuant to any such investigation to the council.

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- (f) The Judicial Review Council shall develop a concise brochure written in plain language to provide the public with information concerning the purpose, authority, jurisdiction and process of the Judicial Review Council. The council shall distribute the brochure to all court administrative offices and to any person who files a complaint pursuant to section 51-51*l*.
- (g) The Judicial Review Council shall establish and maintain an Internet web site. The council shall post on the web site the address and telephone number of the council's office, the electronic mail address for the council and information concerning the purpose, authority, jurisdiction and process of the council. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, the procedure for filing a complaint against a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate, a copy of the complaint form, the statutory grounds for the censure, suspension or removal from office of a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate, the code of judicial conduct or a link thereto, relevant statutory and regulatory provisions or a link thereto, the process of investigating and disposing of complaints and the dispositions available to the council. Notwithstanding the availability of the complaint form on the web site, no complaint may be filed electronically. The judicial branch web site shall include a link to the Judicial Review Council web site under the heading "Complaints against Judges".
- (h) The council shall give notice of the time and place of its meetings, and make the agendas for such meetings available to the public, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14 except that an agenda made available to the public shall not contain any personally identifiable information that might identify the respondent unless the meeting takes place after the council has found that probable cause exists that the respondent is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i. The council shall post such notices and agendas on its Internet web site and provide such notices and agendas to the cochairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary.

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(i) Upon the request of any person subject to the provisions of this chapter and the concurring vote of a majority of the members of the council present and voting, the council shall issue advisory opinions with regard to whether conduct contemplated by such person would be conduct under section 51-51i that could subject such person to admonishment, censure, suspension or removal from office under this chapter. The council shall publish such advisory opinions in the Connecticut Law Journal. Advisory opinions rendered by the council, until amended or revoked, shall be binding on the council and shall be deemed to be final decisions of the council for purposes of appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall uphold the decision of the council in issuing the advisory opinion unless it finds that the decision was arbitrary, capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion. Any advisory opinion concerning any person subject to the provisions of this chapter who requested the opinion and who acted in reliance thereon, in good faith, shall be binding upon the council, and it shall be an absolute defense in any proceeding brought under the provisions of this chapter that the respondent acted in reliance upon such advisory opinion.

[(g)] (j) The Judicial Review Council shall submit to the Governor, the Judicial Department, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Judicial Review Council, and the judges of the Superior Court annually on or before September first, a report of its activities for the previous fiscal year, including the number of complaints received and the number of each type of complaint disposition, including the number of dismissals, the number of admonishments and the number of cases in which probable cause was found.

- [(h)] (k) The Commissioner of Public Works shall provide the Judicial Review Council office space for the conduct of duties of the council.
- [(i)] (1) The Judicial Review Council shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish rules and

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procedures for the council in the discharge of its duties under this chapter and to provide standards for the identification of and procedures for the treatment of conflicts of interest for council members, which standards shall require that any professional or ethical codes of conduct shall apply to any professional member of the council subject to such codes of conduct.

- Sec. 5. Section 51-51*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- (a) Except as provided in subsection [(d)] (e) of this section, the Judicial Review Council shall investigate every written complaint brought before it alleging conduct under section 51-51i, and may initiate an investigation of any judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate if (1) the council has reason to believe conduct under section 51-51i has occurred, or (2) previous complaints indicate a pattern of behavior which would lead to a reasonable belief that conduct under section 51-51i has occurred. The council shall, not later than five days after such initiation of an investigation or receipt of such complaint, notify by registered or certified mail any judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate under investigation or against whom such complaint is filed. A copy of any such complaint shall accompany such notice. The council shall also notify the complainant of its receipt of such complaint not later than five days thereafter. Any investigation to determine whether or not there is probable cause that conduct under section 51-51i has occurred shall be confidential and any individual called by the council for the purpose of providing information shall not disclose [his] such individual's knowledge of such investigation to a third party prior to the decision of the council on whether probable cause exists, unless the respondent requests that such investigation and disclosure be open, [provided] except that information known or obtained independently of any such investigation shall not be confidential and the complainant may disclose that he or she has filed a complaint against a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate. The judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate shall have

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the right to appear and be heard and to offer any information which may tend to clear [him] <u>such judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate</u> of probable cause to believe he <u>or she</u> is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i. The judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate shall also have the right to be represented by legal counsel and examine and cross-examine witnesses. In conducting its investigation under this subsection, the council may request that a court furnish to the council a record or transcript of court proceedings made or prepared by a court reporter, assistant court reporter or monitor and the court shall, upon such request, furnish such record or transcript.

(b) The Judicial Review Council shall, not later than three business days after the termination of such investigation, notify the complainant, if any, and the judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate that the investigation has been terminated and the results thereof. If the council finds that conduct under section 51-51i has not occurred, but the judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate has acted in a manner which gives the appearance of impropriety or constitutes an unfavorable judicial or magisterial practice, the council may issue an admonishment to the judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate recommending a change in judicial or magisterial conduct or practice. If an admonishment is issued, the council shall (1) notify the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary that an admonishment was issued and provide said committee with the substance of the admonishment, including copies of the complaint file, and (2) inform the complainant, if any, that an admonishment was issued if the admonishment is the result of misconduct alleged in the complaint. [Except as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the The substance of the admonishment shall [not be disclosed to any person or organization] be a matter of public record.

(c) If a preliminary investigation indicates that probable cause exists that the judge, compensation commissioner or family support

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magistrate is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i, the investigatory records of the council including any complaint, transcripts of evidentiary proceedings, statements and other documentary evidence obtained or compiled during the investigation shall be open for public inspection except that any information that would be exempt from disclosure under subsection (b) of section 1-210 shall be removed or redacted.

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[(c)] (d) If a preliminary investigation indicates that probable cause exists that the judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i, the council shall hold a hearing concerning the conduct or complaint. [All hearings held pursuant to this subsection shall be open.] A judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate appearing before such a hearing shall be entitled to counsel, to present evidence and to crossexamine witnesses. The council shall make a record of all proceedings pursuant to this subsection. After all evidence and arguments have been presented at such hearing, the council shall determine whether the judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i. The council shall not later than thirty days after the close of such hearing publish its findings together with a memorandum of its reasons therefor. All proceedings of the council held pursuant to this subsection, including all hearings and meetings and the deliberations of the council in making its findings, shall be open to the public.

[(d)] (e) No complaint against a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate alleging conduct under section 51-51i shall be brought under this section but within one year from the date the alleged conduct occurred or was discovered or in the exercise of reasonable care should have been discovered, except that no such complaint may be brought more than three years from the date the alleged conduct occurred.

[(e)] (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the council shall disclose any information concerning

complaints received by the council on and after January 1, 1978, investigations, and disposition of such complaints to the legislative program review and investigations committee when requested by the committee in the course of its functions, in writing and upon a majority vote of the committee, provided no names or other identifying information shall be disclosed.

- [(f)] (g) On and after December 19, 1991, any judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate who has been the subject of an investigation by the Judicial Review Council as a result of a complaint brought before [such] the council may request that such complaint, investigation and the disposition of such complaint be open to public inspection.
- 599 [(g)] (h) Whenever a complaint against a judge, compensation 600 commissioner or family support magistrate is pending before the 601 Judicial Review Council within the final year of the term of office of 602 such judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate, 603 the Judicial Review Council shall designate such complaint as 604 privileged and shall conduct an expedited investigation and hearing so 605 that its duties with respect to such complaint are completed in 606 sufficient time to enable the Judicial Review Council to make its 607 recommendation concerning any such judge to the Judicial Selection 608 Commission and the Governor under section 51-51q in a timely 609 manner.
- Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 51-51m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* October 1, 2007):
  - (a) The Judicial Review Council may take any action upon a majority vote of its members present and voting, except that twelve members of the Judicial Review Council shall constitute a quorum for any action to publicly censure a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate, suspend a judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate for any period, refer the

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- 619 matter to the Supreme Court with a recommendation that a judge or
- 620 family support magistrate be suspended for a period longer than one
- 621 year, [or] refer the matter to the Supreme Court with a
- recommendation that a judge or family support magistrate be removed
- 623 from office or to the Governor with a recommendation that a
- 624 compensation commissioner be removed from office or impose a civil
- 625 penalty on a judge, compensation commissioner or family support
- 626 magistrate and the concurring vote of seven of such members shall be
- 627 required.
- Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 51-51n of the general statutes is
- 629 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 630 *October 1, 2007*):
- 631 (a) The Judicial Review Council may, after a hearing pursuant to
- 632 subsection [(c)] (d) of section 51-51l, as amended by this act, (1)
- 633 publicly censure the judge, compensation commissioner or family
- 634 support magistrate, (2) suspend the judge, compensation
- commissioner or family support magistrate for a definite term not to
- 636 exceed one year, (3) refer the matter to the Supreme Court with a
- 637 recommendation that the judge or family support magistrate be
- 638 suspended for a period longer than one year, (4) refer the matter to the
- 639 Supreme Court with a recommendation that the judge or family
- support magistrate be removed from office or to the Governor with a
- recommendation that the compensation commissioner be removed
- from office, or (5) exonerate the judge, compensation commissioner or
- 643 family support magistrate of all charges. <u>In addition to imposing</u>
- discipline under subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection, the council
- 645 <u>may impose a civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars per</u>
- 646 violation.
- Sec. 8. Section 51-51q of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 648 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- (a) (1) [The] Whenever a judge is nominated for appointment to a
- 650 <u>different court or for reappointment, the</u> Judicial Review Council shall

submit [its recommendations concerning the nomination for appointment to a different court of any judge or nomination for reappointment of any judge whose term of office is about to expire, including] a report of any complaint filed against [any] such judge and the disposition of any such complaint, [and] including any investigation of any such judge by the council, to the Governor, to the Judicial Selection Commission and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary, provided the Judicial Selection Commission shall not consider any investigation of the Judicial Review Council which resulted in the exoneration of a judge.

(2) In addition to the information required to be submitted under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Judicial Review Council shall make all complaint files concerning any such judge available to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, if the disposition of a complaint filed against any such judge involved the issuance of an admonishment to or the public censure or suspension of such judge, (A) no information pertaining to the complaint and the investigation and disposition of such complaint may be removed, redacted or otherwise withheld by the Judicial Review Council prior to making such complaint files available to said committee as required by this subdivision, and (B) the Judicial Review Council shall provide to said committee any information, including, but not limited to, any confidential information, in its possession concerning such judge that may be requested in writing by the cochairpersons of said committee. Such information shall be provided to said committee not later than three business days following the date the request is received by the Judicial Review Council. Any confidential information provided to said committee as required by this subdivision shall not be further disclosed to any person or organization.

[(3) If the Judicial Review Council has reason to believe any such judge is guilty of conduct under section 51-51i, material neglect of duty

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or incompetence in the conduct of his office, it may refuse to recommend such judge for nomination for appointment to a different court or for reappointment. The Judicial Review Council shall not recommend a judge for nomination for appointment to a different court or for reappointment if the council finds such judge has wilfully violated section 51-39a or has been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.]

- (b) The Judicial Review Council shall submit [its recommendations concerning the reappointment of any family support magistrate whose term of office is about to expire, including] a report of <u>any complaint filed against any family support magistrate whose term of office is about to expire and the disposition of any such complaint, including any investigation of any such magistrate by the council, to the Governor.</u>
- (c) The Judicial Review Council shall submit [its recommendations concerning the nomination for reappointment of any compensation commissioner whose term of office is about to expire, including a report of] any complaint filed against any compensation commissioner whose term of office is about to expire and the disposition of such complaint, including any investigation of such compensation commissioner by the council, to the Governor and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary. The Judicial Review Council shall provide information to said committee concerning any complaint filed against such compensation commissioner and the investigation and disposition of such complaint, including, but not limited to, confidential information, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as information provided under subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this section.
- (d) If a complaint against any such judge, compensation commissioner or family support magistrate is received by the Judicial Review Council and the Judicial Review Council is unable to make its findings and complete its duties with respect to such judge,

- 718 compensation commissioner or family support magistrate prior to the
- 719 expiration of the term of office of such judge, compensation
- 720 commissioner or family support magistrate, the Judicial Review
- 721 Council [shall not refuse to recommend such judge, compensation
- 722 commissioner or family support magistrate for reappointment based
- on such complaint, but] shall report the fact of such complaint to the
- Governor and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
- having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary.
- Sec. 9. Section 51-51r of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- Any judge or family support magistrate aggrieved by any decision
- of the Judicial Review Council may appeal the decision to the Supreme
- 730 Court in accordance with such procedure for the appeal as the
- 731 Supreme Court shall adopt by rule. <u>In reviewing the factual findings</u>
- of the council, the Supreme Court shall ascertain whether there was
- 733 substantial evidence to support those findings and in reviewing the
- 734 <u>legal conclusions of the council, the Supreme Court shall conduct a de</u>
- 735 novo review.
- Sec. 10. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2007) (a) On and after the effective
- date of this section, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall
- 738 nominate for appointment by the General Assembly a Chief Court
- 739 Administrator. The Chief Court Administrator shall serve at the
- 740 pleasure of the Chief Justice and for a term coterminous with the term
- of the Chief Justice. If the Chief Court Administrator is a judge of the
- 742 Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme Court, cessation of his or
- 743 her service as Chief Court Administrator shall not affect his or her
- 744 term as judge of the Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme
- 745 Court.
- (b) A nomination made by the Chief Justice to the General Assembly
- 747 for appointment of a Chief Court Administrator shall be referred,
- 748 without debate, to the committee on the judiciary, which shall report
- thereon within thirty legislative days from the time of reference, but no

- later than seven legislative days before the adjourning of the GeneralAssembly.
- 752 (c) No vacancy in the position of Chief Court Administrator shall be 753 filled by the Chief Justice when the General Assembly is not in session 754 unless, prior to such filling, the Chief Justice submits the name of the 755 proposed vacancy appointee to the committee on the judiciary. Within 756 forty-five days, the committee on the judiciary may, upon the call of 757 either chairperson, hold a special meeting for the purpose of 758 approving or disapproving such proposed vacancy appointee by 759 majority vote. The proposed vacancy appointee shall not begin service 760 as Chief Court Administrator until the committee has approved such 761 proposed vacancy appointee. If the committee determines that it 762 cannot complete its investigation and act on such proposed vacancy 763 appointee within such forty-five-day period, it may extend such period 764 by an additional fifteen days. The committee shall notify the Chief 765 Justice in writing of any such extension. Failure of the committee to act 766 on such proposed vacancy appointee within such forty-five-day period 767 or any fifteen-day extension period shall be deemed to be an approval.
- Sec. 11. Section 51-1b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):
- [(a)] The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be the head of the Judicial Department and shall be responsible for its administration.
- [(b) The Chief Justice shall appoint a Chief Court Administrator who shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Justice.]
- Sec. 12. Section 45a-74 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):
- [(a) There shall be a Probate Court Administrator who shall be appointed from among the judges of the several courts of probate by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to serve at his pleasure. If the Probate Court Administrator is unable by reason of sickness, absence or other disability to perform the duties of his office, or if there is a

- 781 vacancy in the office of Probate Court Administrator, the Chief Justice 782 shall designate another judge of a court of probate to act in his stead until he resumes his duties or until a new Probate Court Administrator 783 784 is appointed.]
- 785 (a) On and after the effective date of this section, the Chief Justice of 786 the Supreme Court shall nominate for appointment by the General 787 Assembly a Probate Court Administrator. The Probate Court 788 Administrator shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Justice and for a 789 term coterminous with the term of the Chief Justice. If the Probate Court Administrator is a judge of probate, cessation of his or her 790 791 service as Probate Court Administrator shall not affect his or her term 792 as judge of probate.
  - (b) The Probate Court Administrator shall devote full time to the duties of [his] the office except that he or she may serve as a judge of probate but shall not engage in the private practice of law. Any Probate Court Administrator who ceases to serve as a judge of probate may continue to serve as Probate Court Administrator at the pleasure of the Chief Justice.
- 799 (c) A nomination made by the Chief Justice to the General Assembly for appointment of a Probate Court Administrator shall be referred, 800 without debate, to the committee on the judiciary, which shall report 802 thereon within thirty legislative days from the time of reference, but no 803 later than seven legislative days before the adjourning of the General Assembly. 804
  - (d) No vacancy in the position of Probate Court Administrator shall be filled by the Chief Justice when the General Assembly is not in session unless, prior to such filling, the Chief Justice submits the name of the proposed vacancy appointee to the committee on the judiciary. Within forty-five days, the committee on the judiciary may, upon the call of either chairperson, hold a special meeting for the purpose of approving or disapproving such proposed vacancy appointee by majority vote. The proposed vacancy appointee shall not begin service

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- 813 <u>as Probate Court Administrator until the committee has approved such</u>
- 814 proposed vacancy appointee. If the committee determines that it
- 815 <u>cannot complete its investigation and act on such proposed vacancy</u>
- appointee within such forty-five-day period, it may extend such period
- 817 by an additional fifteen days. The committee shall notify the Chief
- 818 Justice in writing of any such extension. Failure of the committee to act
- 819 on such proposed vacancy appointee within such forty-five-day period
- or any fifteen-day extension period shall be deemed to be an approval.
- Sec. 13. Subsection (h) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes is
- 822 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 823 1, 2007):
- [(h) (1) On and after April 1, 2002, the Chief Family Support
- 825 Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred eight thousand eight
- 826 hundred twenty-one dollars, and other family support magistrates
- 827 shall receive an annual salary of one hundred three thousand five
- 828 hundred sixty-nine dollars.
- 829 (2) On and after January 1, 2005, the Chief Family Support
- 830 Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred fourteen thousand
- 831 eight hundred six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall
- 832 receive an annual salary of one hundred nine thousand two hundred
- 833 sixty-five dollars.
- 834 (3) On and after January 1, 2006, the Chief Family Support
- 835 Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred twenty-one thousand
- 836 one hundred twenty dollars, and other family support magistrates
- 837 shall receive an annual salary of one hundred fifteen thousand two
- 838 hundred seventy-five dollars.]
- 839 [(4)] (h) (1) On and after January 1, 2007, and subject to the
- 840 provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, the Chief Family
- 841 Support Magistrate shall receive [a] an annual salary of one hundred
- 842 twenty-seven thousand seven hundred eighty-two dollars, and other
- 843 family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one
- 844 hundred twenty-one thousand six hundred fifteen dollars.

- (2) On July 1, 2007, and on July first of each year thereafter, the salary for the Chief Family Support Magistrate and other family support magistrates shall be increased by a percentage, rounded up to the nearest one-hundredth, that equals the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the salary increases under this subdivision are paid. For the purposes of this subdivision, the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers includes all increases in base salary, annual increments and any other increase reflected in the state managers' regular paychecks, except longevity payments. All amounts used in calculating such increases shall be rounded up to the next highest dollar. As used in this subdivision, "state manager" means a managerial employee in the classified service, as such terms are defined in section 5-196.
- Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 46b-236 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2007):
  - (b) [Each] (1) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this section, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of one hundred ninety dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.
  - (2) On July 1, 2007, and on July first of each year thereafter, the sum paid to each family support referee under this subsection shall be increased by a percentage, rounded up to the nearest one-hundredth, that equals the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the increase in such sum under this subdivision is paid. For the purposes of this subdivision, the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers includes all increases in base salary, annual increments and any other increase reflected in the state managers' regular paychecks, except longevity payments. All amounts used in calculating such increases shall be rounded up to the next highest

- 878 dollar. As used in this subdivision, "state manager" means a
- 879 <u>managerial employee in the classified service, as such terms are</u>
- 880 defined in section 5-196.
- Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 51-47 of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 883 1, 2007):
- (a) The judges of the Superior Court, judges of the Appellate Court
- and judges of the Supreme Court shall receive annually salaries as
- 886 follows:
- [(1) On and after April 1, 2002, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme
- 888 Court, one hundred forty-nine thousand five hundred eighty-two
- 889 dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme
- 890 Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred forty-three
- 891 thousand seven hundred thirty-eight dollars; (C) each associate judge
- 892 of the Supreme Court, one hundred thirty-eight thousand four
- 893 hundred four dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one
- 894 hundred thirty-six thousand eight hundred seventy-three dollars; (E)
- 895 each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred twenty-nine thousand
- 896 nine hundred eighty-eight dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court
- 897 Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred twenty-
- seven thousand six hundred seventeen dollars; (G) each judge of the
- 899 Superior Court, one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars.
- 900 (2) On and after January 1, 2005, (A) the Chief Justice of the
- 901 Supreme Court, one hundred fifty-seven thousand eight hundred nine
- 902 dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme
- 903 Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred fifty-one
- 904 thousand six hundred forty-four dollars; (C) each associate judge of
- 905 the Supreme Court, one hundred forty-six thousand sixteen dollars;
- 906 (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred forty-four
- 907 thousand four hundred one dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate
- 908 Court, one hundred thirty-seven thousand one hundred thirty-seven
- 909 dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the

- 910 Superior Court, one hundred thirty-four thousand six hundred thirty-911 six dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred thirty-912 one thousand eight hundred seventy-five dollars.
- 913 (3) On and after January 1, 2006, (A) the Chief Justice of the 914 Supreme Court, one hundred sixty-six thousand four hundred eighty-915 nine dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the 916 Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred fifty-917 nine thousand nine hundred eighty-four dollars; (C) each associate 918 judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred fifty-four thousand forty-919 seven dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred 920 fifty-two thousand three hundred forty-three dollars; (E) each judge of 921 the Appellate Court, one hundred forty-four thousand six hundred 922 eighty dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of 923 the Superior Court, one hundred forty-two thousand forty-one dollars; 924 (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred thirty-nine 925 thousand one hundred twenty-eight dollars.]
  - [(4)] (1) On and after January 1, 2007, and subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, one hundred seventy-five thousand six hundred fortyfive dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred sixtyeight thousand seven hundred eighty-three dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred sixty-two thousand five hundred twenty dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred sixty thousand seven hundred twenty-two dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred fifty-two thousand six thirty-seven dollars; hundred (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred forty-nine thousand eight hundred fifty-three dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred forty-six thousand seven hundred eighty dollars.
- 941 (2) On July 1, 2007, and on July first of each year thereafter, the 942 salary for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Court

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- 943 Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or 944 Superior Court, each associate judge of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, each judge of the Appellate Court, the 945 946 Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court and 947 each judge of the Superior Court shall be increased by a percentage, 948 rounded up to the nearest one-hundredth, that equals the average 949 increase in the annualized salaries for state managers for the fiscal year 950 immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the salary increases 951 under this subdivision are paid. For the purposes of this subdivision, 952 the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers 953 includes all increases in base salary, annual increments and any other 954 increase reflected in the state managers' regular paychecks, except 955 longevity payments. All amounts used in calculating such increases shall be rounded up to the next highest dollar. As used in this 956 957 subdivision, "state manager" means a managerial employee in the 958 classified service, as such terms are defined in section 5-196.
- 959 Sec. 16. Subsection (f) of section 52-434 of the general statutes is 960 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 961 1, 2007):
  - (f) (1) Each judge trial referee shall receive, for acting as a referee or as a single auditor or committee of any court or for performing duties assigned by the Chief Court Administrator with the approval of the Chief Justice, for each day the judge trial referee is so engaged, in addition to the retirement salary: [(1) (A) On and after January 1, 2006, and before January 1, 2007, the sum of two hundred fifteen dollars, and (B) on] (A) On and after January 1, 2007, and subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, the sum of two hundred twenty dollars; and [(2)] (B) expenses, including mileage. Such amounts shall be taxed by the court making the reference in the same manner as other court expenses.
  - (2) On July 1, 2007, and on July first of each year thereafter, the sum paid to each judge trial referee under this subsection shall be increased by a percentage, rounded up to the nearest one-hundredth, that equals

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- 976 the average increase in the annualized salaries for state managers for 977 the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the 978 increase in such sum under this subdivision is paid. For the purposes 979 of this subdivision, the average increase in the annualized salaries for 980 state managers includes all increases in base salary, annual increments 981 and any other increase reflected in the state managers' regular 982 paychecks, except longevity payments. All amounts used in 983 calculating such increases shall be rounded up to the next highest 984 dollar. As used in this subdivision, "state manager" means a 985 managerial employee in the classified service, as such terms are 986 defined in section 5-196.
- 987 Sec. 17. (Effective July 1, 2007) On July 1, 2007, the judicial branch 988 shall increase the hourly or per diem rate of compensation for 989 temporary employees of the judicial branch, including, but not limited 990 to, court monitors, court clerks, court interpreters, family relations 991 staff, juvenile detention staff and clerical and support staff, who are 992 not members of an employee organization, as defined in section 5-270 993 of the general statutes, or covered by a collective bargaining 994 agreement. Such increase shall not be less than five per cent.
- 995 Sec. 18. (*Effective from passage*) The courthouse of the Superior Court 996 located at 1 Courthouse Square in Norwich shall be named the "Milton 997 L. Jacobson Courthouse".
- 998 Sec. 19. Section 52-583 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- No civil action shall be brought against any [sheriff, sheriff's deputy or] constable [,] or state marshal for any neglect or default in his or her office or duty, but within two years next after the right of action accrues.
- Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) For purposes of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of section 1-200 and subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 1-212 of the general statutes, "administrative functions" means (1) all matters not directly related to judicial activities in, and

- discussions concerning, court cases, and (2) those matters that relate to the management of the internal institutional machinery of the judicial branch including, but not limited to, budgeting, accounting, rulemaking, personnel, facilities, physical operations, docketing and scheduling.
- 1013 Sec. 21. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2007) (a) Whenever the Office of the 1014 Chief Court Administrator receives a complaint concerning the 1015 conduct of a judge, the Chief Court Administrator shall, in addition to 1016 any administrative reasons for reviewing such complaint, review such 1017 complaint to determine if there is reason to believe that the allegations 1018 warrant further investigation by the Judicial Review Council. If the 1019 Chief Court Administrator determines that such further investigation 1020 is warranted, he or she shall refer such complaint to the Judicial 1021 Review Council for investigation and action in accordance with 1022 chapter 872a of the general statutes.
  - (b) If the Chief Court Administrator, in consultation with the Chief Justice, determines that the complaint is (1) without merit, (2) properly the subject of review through an existing adjudicatory procedure, or (3) otherwise not within the purview of the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, such complaint shall not be open to the public.
  - (c) If the Chief Court Administrator, in consultation with the Chief Justice, determines that the complaint warrants administrative action, but does not rise to the level that is appropriate for referral to the Judicial Review Council, the Chief Court Administrator may issue an admonishment in accordance with section 51-45a of the general statutes.
  - Sec. 22. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The judicial branch shall make the criminal docket of the Superior Court, including the docket number, name of the defendant, date of birth of the defendant and charge, available to the public on its Internet web site. If the judicial branch determines that there is a serious risk of identity theft in posting the date of birth of a defendant on the web site, it may post a

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redacted version of the date of birth such as only the month and year of birth.

Sec. 23. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2007) The judicial branch shall make conviction information, as defined in section 54-142g of the general statutes, available to the public on its Internet web site. Such information shall include the docket number of the case, name of the defendant, date of arrest, charges and disposition including any fine, term of imprisonment and term of probation imposed by the court, but shall not include the address or motor vehicle operator license number of the defendant. Such information shall be searchable by name of defendant, date of birth of defendant and docket number. If the judicial branch determines that there is a serious risk of identity theft in posting the date of birth of a defendant on the web site, it may post a redacted version of the date of birth such as only the month and year of birth. Conviction information with respect to misdemeanors shall not be available to the public on the judicial branch or other public agency web site after five years from the date of the conviction.

Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Whenever an arrest is made in connection with the execution of a search warrant, any motion filed by a prosecuting authority seeking to extend an order of the court issued under section 54-33c of the general statutes sealing or limiting the disclosure of an affidavit upon which such search warrant was based shall be heard by the court on the record. Any such extension shall be until a date certain and shall not exceed ninety days.

Sec. 25. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2007) Any police report used during a court hearing as the basis for a judicial determination of probable cause, whether or not probable cause has been found, shall be made part of the court file and be open to the public unless the court, on motion of any party or on its own motion, orders, for good cause shown, all or a portion of the report to be sealed. If such motion is granted, the moving party may make a recommendation within seven days as to the details of the sealing order. If no such recommendation is made, the report shall be made public.

Sec. 26. Subsection (d) of section 54-56d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1075 1, 2007):

(d) If the court finds that the request for an examination is justified and that, in accordance with procedures established by the judges of the Superior Court, there is probable cause to believe that the defendant has committed the crime for which the defendant is charged, the court shall order an examination of the defendant as to his or her competency. The court may (1) appoint one or more physicians specializing in psychiatry to examine the defendant, or (2) order the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services to conduct the examination either (A) by a clinical team consisting of a physician specializing in psychiatry, a clinical psychologist and one of the following: A clinical social worker licensed pursuant to chapter 383b or a psychiatric nurse clinical specialist holding a master's degree in nursing, or (B) by one or more physicians specializing in psychiatry, except that no employee of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services who has served as a member of a clinical team in the course of such employment for at least five years prior to October 1, 1995, shall be precluded from being appointed as a member of a clinical team. If the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services is ordered to conduct the examination, the commissioner shall select the members of the clinical team or the physician or physicians. If the examiners determine that the defendant is not competent, the examiners shall then determine whether there is a substantial probability that the defendant, if provided with a course of treatment, will regain competency within the maximum period of any placement order under this section. If the examiners determine that there is a substantial probability that the defendant, if provided with a course of treatment, will regain competency within the maximum period of any placement order under this section, the examiners shall then determine whether the defendant appears to be eligible for civil commitment, with monitoring by the Court Support Services Division, pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of this section. The court may

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1107 authorize a physician specializing in psychiatry, a clinical 1108 psychologist, a clinical social worker licensed pursuant to chapter 383b 1109 or a psychiatric nurse clinical specialist holding a master's degree in 1110 nursing selected by the defendant to observe the examination. Counsel 1111 for the defendant may observe the examination. The examination shall 1112 be completed within fifteen days from the date it was ordered and the 1113 examiners shall prepare and sign, without notarization, a written 1114 report and file such report with the court within twenty-one business 1115 days of the date of the order. On receipt of the written report, the clerk 1116 of the court shall cause copies to be delivered immediately to the 1117 state's attorney and to counsel for the defendant. The court shall, but 1118 only as to the public, order the written report sealed. The written 1119 report shall not be open to the public unless it is introduced at the 1120 hearing under subsection (e) of this section, a participant at such 1121 hearing relies upon such report for his or her testimony, the 1122 questioning of witnesses or arguments to the court or the court makes findings based on such report. 1123

- Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 53a-39a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2007):
  - (a) In all cases where a defendant has been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony, other than a capital felony, a class A felony or a violation of section 21a-278, 21a-278a, 53a-55, 53a-56, 53a-56b, 53a-57, 53a-58 or 53a-70b or any other offense for which there is a mandatory minimum sentence which may not be suspended or reduced by the court, after trial or by a plea of guilty without trial, and a term of imprisonment is part of a stated plea agreement or the statutory penalty provides for a term of imprisonment, the court may, in its discretion, order an assessment for placement in an alternate incarceration program under contract with the Judicial Department. If the Court Support Services Division recommends placement in an alternate incarceration program, it shall also submit to the court a proposed alternate incarceration plan. Upon completion of the assessment, the court shall determine whether such defendant shall be

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- 1141 ordered to participate in such program as an alternative to 1142 incarceration. If the court determines that the defendant shall 1143 participate in such program, the court shall suspend any sentence of 1144 imprisonment and shall make participation in the alternate 1145 incarceration program a condition of probation as provided in section 1146 53a-30. An alternate incarceration assessment report prepared 1147 pursuant to this subsection shall be sealed upon filing with the court. If 1148 the court orders the defendant to participate in such alternate 1149 incarceration program, the report shall be unsealed and open to the 1150 public.
- Sec. 28. Subsection (c) of section 19a-343a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2007):
  - (c) If in the application, the state requests the issuance of a temporary ex parte order for the abatement of a public nuisance, the court [,] or, if the court is not in session, any judge of the Superior Court, may grant a temporary ex parte order to abate the public nuisance. The court or judge shall direct the state to give notice and service of such documents, including a copy of the ex parte order, in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. At such hearing, any defendant may show cause why the abatement order shall be modified or vacated. No such ex parte order may be granted unless it appears from the specific facts shown by affidavit and by complaint that there is probable cause to believe that a public nuisance exists and the temporary relief requested is necessary to protect the public health, welfare or safety. Such show cause hearing shall be scheduled within five business days after service is effected by the state. [The affidavit may be ordered sealed by the court or judge upon a finding that the state's interest in nondisclosure substantially outweighs the defendant's right to disclosure.] A copy of the state's application and the temporary order to cease and desist shall be posted on any outside door to any building on the real property.
- 1173 Sec. 29. Section 51-164x of the general statutes is repealed and the

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- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):
- 1175 (a) Any person affected by a court order which prohibits any person 1176 from attending any session of court, except any session of court conducted pursuant to section 46b-11, 46b-49, 46b-122 or 54-76h, [or 1177 1178 any other provision of the general statutes under which the court is 1179 authorized to close proceedings, whether at a pretrial or trial stage, 1180 shall have the right to the review of such order by the filing of a 1181 petition for review with the Appellate Court [within seventy-two 1182 hours from not later than three business days after the issuance of 1183 such court order.
- (b) No order subject to review pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be effective until [seventy-two hours] the fourth business day after it has been issued, and the timely filing of any petition for review shall stay the order.
  - (c) Any person affected by a court order that seals or limits the disclosure of any files, affidavits, documents or other material on file with the court or filed in connection with a court proceeding, except (1) any order issued pursuant to section 46b-11 or 54-33c<sub>2</sub> [or any other provision of the general statutes under which the court is authorized to seal or limit the disclosure of files, affidavits, documents or materials, whether at a pretrial or trial stage,] and (2) any order issued pursuant to a court rule that seals or limits the disclosure of any affidavit in support of an arrest warrant, shall have the right to the review of such order by the filing of a petition for review with the Appellate Court [within seventy-two hours from] not later than three business days after the issuance of such court order.
  - (d) The Appellate Court shall provide an expedited hearing on such petitions filed pursuant to subsections (a) and (c) of this section in accordance with such rules as the judges of the Appellate Court may adopt, consistent with the rights of the petitioner and the parties to the case.
- Sec. 30. Section 4-173 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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1206 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

(a) The Commission on Official Legal Publications shall publish and distribute a compilation of all effective regulations adopted by all state agencies subsequent to October 27, 1970, except regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of section 4-168. Such publication may be a supplement to or revision of the most current compilation, and shall be published at least semiannually. The Commission on Official Legal Publications may omit from such compilation (1) any regulation that is incorporated by reference into a Connecticut regulation and published by or otherwise available in printed form from a federal agency, a government agency of another state or a commercial publishing company, (2) any regulation that is too expensive to publish, or (3) any regulation the publication of which would be unduly cumbersome. If the commission omits a regulation from the compilation, it shall publish in the compilation a notice identifying the omitted regulation, stating the general subject matter of the regulation and stating an address, telephone number and any other information needed to obtain a copy of the regulation. Such address and telephone number shall be kept current in each semiannual publication of the compilation. The commission shall publish any regulation that has been omitted from publication under subdivision (2) of this subsection as soon as the commission has sufficient funds.

(b) The Commission on Official Legal Publications shall in addition cause to be published in the Connecticut Law Journal at least monthly the text of all regulations received by the commission from the office of the Secretary of the State pursuant to section 4-172 during the preceding month. The commission may omit from the Connecticut Law Journal (1) any regulation submitted in accordance with subsection (g) of section 4-168, for the purposes of renumbering sections only, if a correlated table of the former and new section numbers is published in lieu of the full text, (2) any regulation that is incorporated by reference into a Connecticut regulation and published by or otherwise available in printed form from a federal agency, a government agency of another state or a commercial publishing

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- company, and (3) any regulation the publication of which would be too expensive or unduly cumbersome. If the commission omits a regulation from publication in the Connecticut Law Journal under subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, the commission shall publish in the Connecticut Law Journal a notice identifying the omitted regulation, stating the general subject matter of the regulation and
- 1246 stating an address, telephone number and any other information
- needed to obtain a copy of the regulation.
- 1248 (c) Each agency which adopts a regulation shall make the regulation 1249 available for inspection and copying at its main office.
- (d) Any publication made pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be made available upon request to agencies and officials of this state free of charge, and to other persons at prices fixed by the Commission on Official Legal Publications, in accordance with section 51-216b.
- (e) The compilation of regulations published under subsection (a) of this section and all Connecticut regulations omitted from the compilation under subsection (a) shall be maintained in the reference collection of each law library described in section 11-19a.
- 1259 (f) The commission shall make the compilation of effective 1260 regulations published pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and the 1261 text of recently-filed regulations published pursuant to subsection (b) 1262 of this section available to the public through the Internet. The web 1263 sites of the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branches shall contain a 1264 link to such compilation of effective regulations and text of recently-1265 filed regulations.
- Sec. 31. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of five million dollars is appropriated to the Judicial Department, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the purpose of increasing the hourly or per diem rate of compensation for temporary employees as provided in section 17 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	51-44a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	51-50l(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	52-434(a)
Sec. 4	October 1, 2007	51-51k
Sec. 5	October 1, 2007	51-51 <i>l</i>
Sec. 6	October 1, 2007	51-51m(a)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2007	51-51n(a)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2007	51-51q
Sec. 9	October 1, 2007	51-51r
Sec. 10	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 11	July 1, 2007	51-1b
Sec. 12	July 1, 2007	45a-74
Sec. 13	July 1, 2007	46b-231(h)
Sec. 14	July 1, 2007	46b-236(b)
Sec. 15	July 1, 2007	51-47(a)
Sec. 16	July 1, 2007	52-434(f)
Sec. 17	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 18	from passage	New section
Sec. 19	from passage	52-583
Sec. 20	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 21	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 22	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 23	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 24	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 25	July 1, 2007	New section
Sec. 26	July 1, 2007	54-56d(d)
Sec. 27	July 1, 2007	53a-39a(a)
Sec. 28	July 1, 2007	19a-343a(c)
Sec. 29	July 1, 2007	51-164x
Sec. 30	July 1, 2007	4-173
Sec. 31	July 1, 2007	New section

JUD Joint Favorable Subst.